



Commonwealth of Kentucky Public Protection Cabinet

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Kentucky Department of Charitable Gaming helps fund gambling helpline

Frankfort, Ky. (June 28, 2013) – The Kentucky Department of Charitable Gaming (DCG) has donated \$2,500 to support the Kentucky Council on Problem Gambling's helpline.

The Kentucky Problem Gambling Helpline -- 1-800-GAMBLER or 1-800-426-2537 -- is the public's primary option to receive information and referral direction regarding possible gambling problems or addictions. Anyone may call if a gambling problem is suspected or more information is needed. The service is available continuously.

DCG Commissioner Marty Hammons said the helpline is an incredible service provided by the Kentucky Council on Problem Gambling and the department is pleased to offer support. "Last year, the helpline received 884 calls; 172 of which were provided with a reportable service, meaning the caller was referred to a certified counselor or Gamblers Anonymous Meeting, or sent information about problem and pathological gambling. So the work is meaningful and helpful to many Kentuckians."

Hammons said the department will continue to support the helpline as funds are available. The Department of Charitable Gaming is a fee-based agency, accepting no general fund dollars for its function.

The helpline is available statewide and is publicized widely on billboards, posters, brochures and rack cards that are displayed at gaming venues, family resource and youth service centers, senior centers and assisted living facilities, libraries, community mental health centers, and counseling offices.

Other helpline sponsors include the Kentucky Lottery Corp. and Keeneland Race Course.

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